

10/517799

DT12 Recd PCT/PTO 13 DEC 2004

32692

Customer Number

Patent  
Case No.: 57765US004

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

First Named Inventor: **LOW, DAVID K. Y.**

Application No.:

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Filed:

Examiner: Unknown

Title:

**MANUFACTURE OF VALVE STEMS**

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop: PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, enclosed is a completed Form PTO-1449, citing references submitted for consideration by the Examiner. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to indicate that each reference has been considered.

The references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 were cited in the PCT Search Report; therefore, copies are not enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to indicate that each reference has been considered.

Copies of any additional cited foreign patents, foreign publications, non-patent literature documents; and any pending U.S. applications filed before June 30, 2003, are enclosed. Copies of any pending U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003 that can be accessed on the USPTO's IFW system are not enclosed as per USPTO Waiver dated September 21, 2004. Copies of any U.S. patents and published U.S. patent applications are not enclosed.

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It is believed that no fee is due; however, in the event a fee is required, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 13-3723.

Respectfully submitted,

Dec. 10, 2004  
Date

By: Ted Ringsred  
Ted K. Ringsred, Reg. No. 35,658  
Telephone No.: (651) 736-5839

**Filing of Papers and Fees by Express Mailing**

Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.10, this application and the documents and fees listed on this transmittal letter are being deposited on the date indicated below with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

| Date of Deposit          | Express Mail Label No.   |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>December 13, 2004</i> | <u>EV 454 470 096 US</u> |

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel  
3M Innovative Properties Company  
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833

|  |  |                      |            |
|--|--|----------------------|------------|
| Substitute for form 1449A/PTO (modified)   |  | Application Number   | 10/517799  |
| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><br>(Use as many sheets as necessary)<br><br>Page 1 of 1 |  | Filing Date          |            |
|  |  | First Named Inventor | Low, David |
|  |  | Art Unit             | Unknown    |
|  |  | Examiner Name        | Unknown    |
|  |  | Attorney Case Number | 57765US004 |

| U.S. Patent Documents |          |   |  |   |   |
|-----------------------|----------|---|--|---|---|
| Exam. Init.*          | Cite No. | Document Number<br>Doc. Number-(Kind Code if Known) | Publication Date or Issue Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|                       | A1       | US-   |  |   |   |
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|                       | A7       | US-   |  |   |   |
|                       | A8       | US-   |  |   |   |
|                       | A9       | US-   |  |   |   |

| Foreign Patent Documents |          |                                       |                                |   |   |
|--------------------------|----------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|---|
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|                          | B1       | WIPO                                  | WO 89/03274                    | 04-20-1989                                      |   |
|                          | B2       | WIPO                                  | WO 99/55600                    | 11-04-1999                                      |   |
|                          | B3       | WIPO                                  | WO 00/69594                    | 11-23-2000                                      |   |
|                          | B4       | DE                                    | 39 37 460                      | 11-08-1990                                      |   |
|                          | B5       |                                       |                                |   |   |
|                          | B6       |                                       |                                |   |   |
|                          | B7       |                                       |                                |   |   |
|                          | B8       |                                       |                                |   |   |

| OTHER DOCUMENTS |          |  |  |  |                            |
|-----------------|----------|--|--|--|----------------------------|
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| *Examiner:   | Date Considered: |
| EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. |                  |